

Low Nook,
Ambleside.

May 7th, 1953.

Dear

I am sure you will be glad to hear that Mr. Bozman has kindly undertaken to choose passages from the Reviews himself so I am sending him all the sheets that I have; he and Mr. ~~Oss~~ will select material for the jacket.

He suggests that a new Foreword, if one is necessary in addition to Canon Lyttleton's which was written for the first publication of the book, should be by someone who is taking a leading part in the current discussions on the theory of education.

I am not sure from the correspondence I have had whether any of the Lecturers I have written to know the "Essay" sufficiently well, if at all, and I am wondering if Colonel Temple to whom I gave a copy of the "Essay" last year would be an idea. Curiously enough more people are likely to know him than any of the Lecturers I have been writing to because he is so well known as the brother of Archbishop Temple, to whom the majority of the Archbishop's personal letters were written. I could remind him of a message which Archbishop Temple sent to the Centenary number of "The Parents' Review" - "The P.N.E.U. has been one of the most vitalising factors in the educational life of our country for half a century and has steadily fastened attention upon the vital point of close co-operation between school and home. It has constantly upheld the more human as contrasted with the more commercial or mechanical tendencies in educational development. For all of this it deserves the gratitude of the whole nation."

I have now incorporated in "Meetings Past and Present" the suggestions that you and ~~Mr~~ have made. Now that the "Essay" will appear before the end of the year, this second adventure into Charlotte Mason's thought seems hardly necessary, though it has occurred to me that it might be well later on, if Miss Molyneux would still like it in the "Parents' Review", as she kindly says as a record, like "Meeting" number 1. If it considered worthy it might perhaps take a humble place as a sales advertisement!

P.T.O

EF UK

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May 8th, 1953.

Since writing the letter of the 7th an idea has occurred to me. The idea of a fresh Foreword has been raised by Miss Molyneux. She thinks there should be ~~a 3rd~~ 1 later than Dr. Lyttleton's so as to attract people to the new edition. I agree with her because my experience is that people throw away book jackets as soon as they can, so there would be nothing fresh in the 3rd edition at all! L. M. M.
 wcc

hV I will still write to Colonel Temple as I have suggested but in any case would it ~~not~~ be well to have some of the messages sent to the P.R. for Miss Mason's Centenary? I suggest the following might be attractive and I will write to Professor Jacks also.

mm

Charlotte

(Messages of congratulations on ~~Miss~~ Mason's work sent to the "Parents' Review" for January 1942 the Centenary of her birth in 1842.

.....

HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN MOTHER

~~ROBINSON P. DACE~~

~~October, 1941.~~

"I am glad to have this opportunity of paying a tribute to ~~Charlotte~~ Mason's work as an educationalist on the occasion of her Centenary."

"Teachers owe much to her deep insight into child psychology and to the new principles in character-building and mind-training which she advocated, but parents owe her still more.

The gratitude of countless mothers in all parts of the world, who have profited by her counsel, will be her enduring memorial."

~~WILKINSON~~

~~Later~~ Archbishop William Temple:

"I send most cordial greetings and congratulations to the "Parents' Review on the centenary of ~~Miss~~ Mason's birth. The P.N.E.U. has been one of the most vitalising factors in the educational life of our country for half a century and has steadily fastened attention upon the vital point of close co-operation between school and home. It has constantly upheld the more human as contrasted with the more commercial or mechanical tendencies in educational development. For all of this it deserves the gratitude of the whole nation."

Charlotte

Sir Henry Richards, C.B., ~~Late~~ Senior Chief Inspector, Board of Education.

"..... She brought into the life of education a sweetness and a light which transformed school routine into a personal search for beauty and truth.

Her memory lives not only in the hearts of her colleagues and pupils but in the history of national education."

Professor W.G. de Burgh, late Vice-Chancellor Reading University.

"... With a rare gift of insight into the nature and needs of the young, and a grasp of philosophical principles united with a typical North Country sense of what was practicable, she spent herself generously in the effort to realise a truly democratic ideal of education, in which an ardour for reform was blended with a sane conservatism, and a reverence for enduring values with freedom for the expansion of children's interests and capacity."

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Sir Michael Sadler, K.C.S.I., C.B., late Vice-Chancellor Leeds University.

"She threw 'a shaft of light across the land.' She loved England and therefore had at heart the upbringing of the children of England. She longed that they should have what to her had been beyond price - the habit of reading great books which disclose the mind of man, seen in the light of 'a far-off divine event.'"

Dr. M. L. Jacks, the Director of the University of Oxford, 4p5CMC424

Department of Education.

elc "Miss Mason made a vital contribution to educational thought and practice, and many of the more enlightened forms of recent years have been indirectly, if not directly, due to her. Indeed, I believe we should be wise, in planning certain aspects of our post-war education, to go back to her "Essay towards a Philosophy of Education" and adapt its lessons to our present needs. In her own field, she showed something of the insight and inspiration of a prophet."

late? Sir Cyril Norwood, D. Litt., The President, St. John's College Oxford.

"... We are still moving towards the solution of the problems which engaged her attention, but it is not an exaggeration to say that because of her life's work we move in some respects with surer steps and on a broader front; for this she surely deserves to be remembered with honour. Certainly no one can read her "Essay towards a Philosophy of Education" without gaining some fresh insight into our real educational problem and some help towards its solution."

John The Lord Primate of Ireland, Archbishop of Armagh.

"And so she came as a deliverer and awakener. Finding that children's minds were expected to take whatever was given them, whether they could digest it or not, and convinced that Nature here as elsewhere must be obeyed if it is to be controlled, she proclaimed her convictions fearlessly, and succeeded by the practical demonstration of the commonsense which underlay them in convincing others of their truth and wisdom."

State one to follow from the E.F. B. if allowed

Reviews

"Many will be glad to read this full and reasoned account of her philosophy. (Journal of Education)

"Charlotte Mason deals simply and sympathetically with the child as a self-educator, and with the nature and extent of the co-operation by parent or teacher. She deserves to be carefully read in the home and in the school. Unless her standpoint is accepted there can be no real education, for it is fundamentally true that no one can teach a child anything - the child must be its own teacher." (The Glasgow Herald.)

"In her last volume Charlotte Mason sets out her philosophy of education with great wealth and variety of illustration. As she says in her Preface 'No statement that I have made in the following volume rests upon opinion only. Every point has been proved in thousands of instances, and the method may be seen at work in many schools, large and small, elementary and secondary.' Here is a last arresting passage: 'Human nature has not failed; what has failed us is philosophy, and that applied philosophy which is called education.' (The Statesman, Calcutta).

"This is a book which deserves to be considered seriously by educational reformers. We welcome particularly the recognition that an educational programme can only justify itself if it can be applied to the whole nation - to the children of the poor as well as those who are better off." (The Church Times).

"Charlotte Mason's essay is, indeed, a valuable and serious contribution to Education itself and to the psychology on which true education must rest. . . . Here is set out, both theory and practice, the right way, the way along which the ideal of a 'Liberal Education for All' can be secured. (Time and Tide).

"This essay is more in the nature of a statement of faith than a philosophical treatise. As a record of the ideas which came to a great teacher in the course of many years' practical experience it will be of permanent value to all educationalists." (The Daily News)

"She was a woman, not of one idea, but of a large and sagacious mind - one of those unobtrusive yet powerful thinkers whose real greatness will better be appreciated by future generations than their modesty suffers it to be by their own." (The Guardian)

"The late Charlotte Mason was a Prophet of the P.N.E.U. and like all prophets, from Isaiah onwards, she was an enthusiast." (The Times of India)

"This, Miss Charlotte Mason's last book, which she did ^{14p7CNC424} not live to see in print, in many ways sums up her teaching and her message. It is a book of much wisdom, and refreshing alike for its respect for children and for its respect for experience. Miss Mason had studied education too long to be carried away by stunts and panaceas, however seductive. She has the true pioneer's suspicion of seeming short cuts. ~~like Sir Richard's book, this is a book of wisdom, and refreshing alike for its respect for children and for its respect for experience. Miss Mason had studied education too long to be carried away by stunts and panaceas, however seductive. She has the true pioneer's suspicion of seeming short cuts.~~ One of our presumptuous sins,' she declared, 'is that we venture to offer opinions to children (and to older persons) instead of ideas. The mind feeds on ideas, and therefore children should have a generous curriculum.'

"But this book is much more than an exposition of any system or method. It is a treatise on education itself - a book of mellow wisdom, clearly and beautifully written, in which no teacher, however widely he differ with Miss Mason in outlook, can fail to find much to arrest him. (The Teachers' World)

"There is a multitude here, and in other lands, to whom this lucid exposition of vitally important principle and of the method of its application will come as a veritable discovery.

But this will depend on our shaking ourselves free of an erroneous view of the nature and working of the human mind."

(Dr. Edward Lyttleton)

"It would be impossible to touch on even a minority of the points emphasised in this suggestive book. Not everyone will follow the writer in her optimism as to the ability of the average child, but all must agree that the largesse she suggests is advisable so that those who hunger (even if it be only the few) may be fed. Every liberal thinker must follow her, too, in her indignation against mere vocational training. The child must at least have the chance of "education which will qualify him for life rather than for earning a living."

(The Westminster Gazette)
"There can be little doubt that Miss Mason is here getting at the roots of her subject. There is too much adult depreciation of the child mind, with all its potentialities and powers of insight and comprehension.

(The Scotsman)

P.R

only

"I have finished Miss Mason' s book. It seems to me a really great book, full of wisdom and understanding, counsel and strength."(P. N.E.U. Parent).

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R.R.ing

"I have finished Miss Mason' s book. It seems to me a really great book, full of wisdom and understanding, counsel and strength."(P. N.E.U. Parent).

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June 5th, 1953.

Dear Mr. Bozman,

I sent the arrangement for the Reviews to the Sub-committee and have just received them. We all three think the extracts are very well chosen and should be a great help in making the book known.

I find it a little difficult to know whether I should write to you or to Mr. Hoppé, but perhaps you will forgive me and send them on if they should have gone to him first.

I am wondering whether it would be well to have reprints of these extracts which might be inserted into letters recommending the book. My experience has been that the cover is very soon thrown off a book, sometimes without reading. I have seen little leaflets sent out by publishers; but that was years ago when paper was not so precious, and books were much cheaper. I speak in great ignorance about the whole matter and hope you will forgive me for drawing attention to the question.

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I have not yet heard from Sir Richard Livingstone but will let you know directly I do.

I expect everybody is finding it difficult to get back into harness again, after the wonderful experience of Tuesday.

Yours sincerely,

Pm

Sent 34 letters to Bent

& the Director has chosen the
 following besides the ^{two} 1942 P.R. ^{messages} ~~messages~~

Please comments on any of these
 shells & return the packed one.

I think they are all well
 chosen — & I am delighted
 that Sir R. Ligonstone will
 write the foreword H.W.

Excellent E.

(Small misprint on
 last page)



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Please refer to AJH/CMB

9th June, 1953.

Miss E. Kitching,
Low Nook,
AMBLESIDE.

Dear Miss Kitching,

Thank you for returning, via Mr. Bozman, the type matter for the wrapper of An Essay towards a Philosophy of Education with the extracts from reviews. I am sending it back to you, as I gather you want it, and we have a duplicate here.

Your letter has crossed mine with a proof of the wrapper. We can, later on when the book is ready, manufacture a two-page small leaflet embodying the matter on the wrapper, and the cost of three or four thousand would be about £10, which, of course, we shall have to charge to you. On the other hand you may prefer to have the leaflet printed yourself, possibly by the printers of the Parents' Review, in which case we should like to have five ~~thousand~~ copies of it.

hundred

Yours sincerely,

M. H. Dent

Enc.

June 11th, 1953.

Dear Mr. Hoppe,

Thank you for your letter of this morning and for returning the typed letter sent by Mr. Bozman.

only I am enclosing a copy of the title page on Mr. Bozman's sheet as I think it is better than the one you send me. I think there should be a "by" before Charlotte M Mason, and "The Founder *etc* of the *Parents' Review*" could be arranged in two lines which would take two lines *and* get all that is necessary in. The only other thing to alter is on the flap, which should read as on the sheet I send. May I have two revises of this to send to my Committee.

Sincerely yours,



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5th June, 1953.

Miss E. Kitching,
Low Nook,
Ambleside.

Dear Miss Kitching,

Here are a couple of proofs of the wrapper of An Essay towards a Philosophy of Education. The wrapper will be printed on a light blue paper (see enclosed sample), and I shall be glad if you will return one of the proofs with any corrections as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Encs.